

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Geoffrey B. Rhoads

Serial No. 09/186,962

Filed: November 5, 1998

For: METHOD FOR MONITORING  
DISSEMINATION OF IMAGE, VIDEO  
AND/OR AUDIO FILES

Examiner: J. Couso

Date: June 14, 2000



Art Unit 2721

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER AND THE DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO AS BEING ATTACHED OR ENCLOSED HEREWITH ARE BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE ON June 14, 2000 AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: BOX AF, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20331.

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Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the subject application as follows:

In the Claims:

--21<sup>new</sup> A method of monitoring distribution of proprietary audio or image files on the Internet, comprising:  
 from at least one computer, automatically obtaining audio or image files from plural different Internet sites;  
 automatically identifying plural of the obtained files having certain digital watermark data embedded therein, and decoding the digital watermark data therefrom;  
 by reference to said decoded digital watermark data, determining proprietors of each of said plural files; and  
 sending information relating to results of the foregoing monitoring to said determined proprietors;  
 wherein proprietors of audio or image files are alerted to otherwise unknown distribution of their audio or image properties on the Internet.--

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